

DIAKONIA Prayer November 2019

8 The Lord's instruction is right;
it makes our hearts glad.

The Lord's commands shine brightly,
and they give us light.

9 Worshiping the Lord is sacred;

The Lord will always be worshiped.

All of the Lord's decisions
are correct and fair.

Psalm 19, 8-9 (Common English Version)

The word of God refreshes the soul

Whoever is depressed - deep down, may sit up, revive, take new courage. God does not come to those overwhelmed with impossible expectations. On the contrary, through his word he invites us to come to him with everything that we strive for and that oppresses us. We may leave all things with him. He offers to take it from us: our fears, our anger, our guilt. What a refreshment for our soul!

God's Word makes the ignorant wise

God wants to help us understand what we cannot understand. And if something remains incomprehensible, we do not have to wear ourselves down. We can confidently leave questions for which we have no answer, to God and His wisdom. Looking back on our lives, we can recognize how God has wonderfully guided us. He saved us from danger and temptation. He helped us, where we had lost our way. We can see people and things in a new light. He gives us wisdom in dealing with our fellow human beings: patience with the distressed and love for the weary ones.

God's Word pleases the heart

It is good to be able to listen to God and also to be able to talk to him. God is in contact with us, his creatures. Through the words of the Bible, through the gospel of Jesus Christ, God keeps telling us how much he loves us. Some of us still know what it's like when a love letter makes your heart beat faster. To be loved pleases the heart. If that is so with love among us, how much more with God and his love letter to us! God's Word pleases the heart.

God's Word enlightens the eyes

This does not only mean that after listening to God's Word, we look more spiritually into the world. We are like the blind man Jesus healed, which allowed him to look Jesus in the eye. He regained eye contact with his fellow human beings. He saw new perspectives for his life. Therefore, when listening to God's Word, our eyes are also enlightened. We see our life in a hopeful light. We get a new look for things and relationships, a new look for other people. Nothing is hopeless. Nobody has to be lost. Into every situation the light that awakens new hope comes through God's Word.

These are thoughts from a sermon by Pastor Josua Buchmüller. They encouraged me on my way with and for God! Through the many services of DIAKONIA, may new hope be awakened in many people worldwide - a hope that only the living and omnipresent God can bestow.

In our intercession, we want to think of people who are in special circumstances exposed to hardships and difficulties - the persecuted Christians and minorities around the world - girls and women who are raped and abused - people who live in great poverty – and the refugees who live in the south of Europe in hopelessly overcrowded camps and have lost all future perspectives.

Lord, have mercy – Kyrie eleison!

Sr. Elisabeth Meier, Schwesterngemeinschaft Bethesda, Switzerland